

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the present application.

What is claimed is:

1. (original) An examination method comprising the steps of:

storing information on business activities of an enterprise on an ASP (Application Service Provider) server from a terminal of said enterprise through a network;

providing said information on business activities of said enterprise accumulated on said ASP server for an examiner; and

evaluating activities of said enterprise based on said information on business activities provided for said examiner.

2. (original) The examination method according to claim 1, wherein said examination is an examination for determining whether a loan can be offered to said enterprise.

3. (original) An examination method comprising the steps of:

transmitting information on business activities of an enterprise from a terminal of said enterprise to an ASP (Application Service Provider) server through a network;

accumulating said information on business activities of said enterprise on said ASP server;

transmitting said information on business activities of said enterprise accumulated on said ASP server to a terminal of an examiner based on a request from said examiner, said examiner being to perform an examination of said enterprise; and

outputting said information on business activities of said enterprise on said terminal of said examiner,

wherein said information on business activities of said enterprise accumulated on said ASP server is not open to a third party except said enterprise and said examiner, and said examiner evaluates activities of said enterprise based on said information on business activities transmitted to said terminal of said examiner to perform an examination of said enterprise.

4. (original) The examination method according to claim 3, wherein said ASP server is operated by said examiner.

5. (original) The examination method according to claim 4, wherein said examination is an examination for determining whether a loan can be offered to said enterprise.

6. (original) A loan examination method comprising the steps of:

recording information on business activities of an examinee on an ASP (Application Service Provider) server operated by a financial institution from a terminal of said examinee, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined;

performing at least one of addition, update, deletion, and view of said information on business activities recorded on said ASP server from said terminal of said examinee;

transmitting a request for loan from said terminal of said examinee to a terminal of said financial institution;

acquiring said information on business activities of said examinee stored on said ASP server through said terminal of said financial institution; and

determining whether said loan can be offered to said examinee based on said information on business activities of said examinee stored on said ASP server to notify said terminal of said examinee of the determination result.

7. (original) A loan examination method, comprising the steps of:

recording information on general business activities regarding at least one of finance, accounting, sales, and manufacturing of an examinee on an ASP (Application Service Provider) server operated by a financial institution from a terminal of said examinee, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined;

performing addition, update, deletion, or view of said information on business activities on said ASP server from said terminal of said examinee in accordance with progress of actual business activities;

transmitting a request for new loan from said terminal of said examinee to a terminal of said financial institution;

closely investigating said information on general business activities regarding at least one of finance, accounting, sales, and manufacturing of said examinee stored on said ASP server from said terminal of said financial institution; and

determining whether said loan can be offered to said examinee based on information obtained by said close investigation to notify said terminal of said examinee of the determination

result.

8. (original) An ASP (Application Service Provider) server operated by an examiner who is to perform an examination of an enterprise, said ASP server comprising:

means for receiving information on business activities of said enterprise to be examined transmitted from a terminal of said enterprise through a network; and

means for accumulating said received information on business activities; and

means for transmitting said accumulated information on business activities of said enterprise to a terminal of said examiner through said network based on a request transmitted from said terminal of said examiner through said network,

wherein said information on business activities of said enterprise accumulated on said ASP server is not open to a third party except said enterprise and said examiner.

9. (original) A loan examination system, comprising:

a communication network;

a terminal of a financial institution connected to said communication network;

a terminal of an examinee connected to said communication network, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined; and

an ASP (Application Service Provider) server connected to said communication network and operated by said financial institution;

said terminal of said financial institution including:

means for making a request to said ASP server for predetermined information on business activities of said examinee stored on said ASP server to receive said information on business activities;

means for receiving a request for loan from said terminal of said examinee; and

means for returning a result of a loan examination to said terminal of said examinee, said terminal of said examinee including:

means for recording said predetermined information on business activities of said examinee on said ASP server, updating said predetermined information on business activities of said examinee recorded on said ASP server, deleting said predetermined information on business activities of said examinee recorded on said ASP server, and viewing said information on business activities of said examinee from said ASP server;

means for transmitting the request for loan to said terminal of said financial institution; and

means for receiving the result of the loan examination from said terminal of financial institution,

said ASP server including:

means for receiving said information on business activities of said examinee transmitted from said terminal of said examinee, providing said information on business activities of said examinee for said terminal of said examinee based on a request from said terminal of said examinee, and performing record, update, or deletion of said information on business activities of said examinee based on an instruction from said terminal of said examinee;

means for accumulating said received information on business activities; and

means for providing, based on a request from said terminal of said financial institution, requested information on business activities of said examinee for said terminal of said financial institution.

10. (original) A loan examination system, comprising:

a communication network;

a terminal of a financial institution connected to said communication network;

a terminal of an examinee connected to said communication network, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined; and

an ASP (Application Service Provider) server connected to said communication network and operated by said financial institution;

said terminal of said financial institution including:

means for viewing information on general business activities regarding at least one of finance, accounting, sales, and manufacturing of said examinee stored on said ASP server;

means for receiving a request for new loan from said terminal of said examinee; and

means for returning a result of a loan examination to said terminal of said examinee,

said terminal of said examinee including:

means for recording information on general business activities regarding at least one of finance, accounting, sales, and manufacturing of said examinee on said ASP server, updating on said ASP server said information on general business activities recorded on said ASP server, deleting on said ASP server said information on general business activities recorded on said ASP server, and viewing from said ASP server said information on general business activities recorded on said ASP server;

means for transmitting the request for new loan to said terminal of said financial institution; and

means for receiving the result of the loan examination from said terminal of said financial institution,

said ASP server including:

means for storing said information on general business activities of said examinee transmitted from said terminal of said examinee;

means for performing record, update, or deletion of said information on general business activities of said examinee in said storing means based on an instruction from said terminal of said examinee, and reading said information on general business activities of said examinee from said storing means based on a request from said terminal of said examinee to transmit said read information to said terminal of said examinee; and

means for reading said information on general business activities of said examinee requested from said terminal of said financial institution from said storing means to transmit said read information to said terminal of said financial institution.

11. (original) A recording medium readable by a computer connected to an ASP (Application Service Provider) server and a terminal of an examinee through a network, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined, said recording medium having a program recorded thereon causing said computer to perform the processing of:

viewing predetermined information on business activities of said examinee stored on said ASP server;

receiving a request for loan from said terminal of said examinee; and

returning a result of a loan examination to said terminal of said examinee.

12. (original) A recording medium readable by a computer connected to a terminal of a financial institution and an ASP (Application Service Provider) server through a network, said recording medium having a program recorded thereon causing said computer to perform the processing of:

recording predetermined information on business activities of an examinee on said ASP server, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined;

updating said predetermined information on business activities of said examinee recorded on said ASP server;

deleting said predetermined information on business activities of said examinee recorded on said ASP server;

viewing said information on business activities of said examinee from said ASP server;

transmitting a request for loan to said terminal of said financial institution; and

receiving a result of a loan examination from said terminal of said financial institution.

13. (original) A recording medium readable by a computer connected to a terminal of a financial institution and a terminal of an examinee through a network, said examinee being a company, corporation or enterprise to be examined, said recording medium recording a program recorded thereon for performing the processing of:

receiving information on business activities of said examinee transmitted from said terminal of said examinee to accumulate said received information on a storage device;

reading and transmitting from said storage device said information on business activities of said examinee requested from said terminal of said financial institution or said terminal of said examinee; and

performing record, update, or deletion of said information on business activities of said examinee in said storage device based on an instruction from said terminal of said examinee.

14. (new) The examination method according to claim 1, wherein the ASP limits access to update the stored information of the enterprise to the terminal of said enterprise.

15. (new) The examination method according to claim 14, wherein the terminal obtains access to the stored information by communicating an authorization code by the ASP, the authorization code provided by the ASP and associated with the enterprise to the ASP.

16. (new) The examination method according to claim 1, wherein the ASP provides access to the stored information of the enterprise to assist the examiner to evaluate activities of said enterprise.